

NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

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SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT SEEKS QUALIFIED ATTORNEYS FOR SUCCESSFUL CASE SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

Application Deadline is May 31, 2019

SAN FRANCISCO -- The San Francisco Superior Court is recruiting qualified attorneys to serve as volunteer settlement conference officers in its Civil Mandatory Settlement Conference (MSC) Program, Presiding Judge Garrett L. Wong announced today.

The successful 7-year-old program relies on the vast experience within the San Francisco bar to assist the Court by conducting settlement conferences in most types of Civil cases. The Court benefits from the expertise and commitment of volunteer attorneys who value the opportunity to gain this experience and assist the Court to settle cases.

"We are fortunate in San Francisco to have a pool of highly skilled attorneys committed to assisting the Court to settle disputes in most types of general Civil cases," Judge Wong said. "The program allows judges to focus on managing busy calendars and conducting trials. We are grateful to the attorneys who have participated since the MSC program's 2012 inception, and we look forward to recruiting new applicants."

In 2017, nearly 600 cases were ordered to a mandatory settlement conference. Of those, 60 percent of the conferences resulted in a settlement. Typical cases include personal injury,

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SFSC/MSC PROGRAM
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breach of contract, employment, professional negligence, insurance, real estate, and most types of landlord-tenant disputes. The program does not conduct MSCs in Unlawful Detainer, Asbestos, Probate or Family Law cases.

Candidates must have practiced for at least 10 years and must be in good standing and active members of the State Bar of California. The Court is seeking attorneys with substantial settlement experience. Attorneys from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

During the selection process, the committee will consider the following criteria:

- Settlement experience, including number of years conducting settlement and how many settlements conducted;
- Litigation experience, including serving as lead trial counsel;
- Education and training, including courses completed related to settlement and/or alternative dispute resolution (ADR);
- Service on an ADR panel for an organization, agency or court; and
- Bilingual ability.

Applications are available at <https://sfsuperiorcourt.org/divisions/civil/dispute-resolution>.

Attorneys currently on the panel are advised that they do not need to reapply.

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